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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND  
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

March 13, 2006

COATS & BENNETT, PLLC  
P O BOX 5  
RALEIGH, NC 27602  
US

Dear Sir/Madam,

Your refund request for 10689498 in the amount of \$200.00 has been denied .

5 independent claims -3 allowed = 2@100.00 = \$200.00

Sincerely,

ELEANOR KURTZ  
Technical Center Others  
703 308-9010 x177

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PAID

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US PATENT & TRADEMARK  
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Patents, Trademarks,  
Copyrights, Trade Secrets,  
Licensing, and  
Related Litigation

February 7, 2006

**VIA FACSIMILE (571) 273-6500**

Mail Stop 16  
Director of the USPTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Petition for Refund  
U.S. Application Serial No.: 10/689498  
Filed: October 20, 2003  
**CONNECTOR FOR CONNECTING TWO BUILDING MEMBERS  
TOGETHER THAT PERMITS RELATIVE MOVEMENT  
BETWEEN THE BUILDING MEMBERS**

Larry L. Coats  
David E. Bennett  
John R. Owen  
David D. Kalish  
Anthony J. Biller  
Michael D. Murphy  
Edward H. Green III  
Andrew R. Aranda  
Rebecca E. Crandall

Mark R. Bilak\*  
Stephen A. Herrera\*  
Jennifer K. Stewart\*

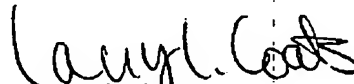
\*Registered patent agent

Dear Sir:

We sent a response to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 3, 2006. Attached to that response was a check for \$260.00 - \$60.00 for a one-month time extension request, and \$200.00 for the addition of two independent claims. However, after reviewing this case we realize that the \$200.00 was erroneously sent since the cost of the amount of claims canceled more than covered the \$200.00 fee for adding the independent claims.

Therefore, please refund the \$200.00 to our deposit account no. 18-1167. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Larry L. Coats  
Reg. No.: 25,620

LLC/kls  
4782-039

CC: Penny L. Cole

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